



Industrial, Residential, Commercial and Marine, Refractory, Noise Control, Heating & Cooling, Fireplaces, Gutters, Waterproofing

Testimony of Tyler Fiske on HB 5908
AN ACT REQUIRING SAFETY AND CERTIFICATION STANDARDS FOR THE SPRAY FOAM
INSULATION INDUSTRY
General Law Committee
Thursday, February 21, 2013

Chairman Baram, Chairman Doyle, members of the General Law Committee, for the record my name is Tyler Fiske from Anchor Insulation with offices in Niantic, Manchester and East Haven and I am submitting testimony on House Bill 5908 AN ACT REQUIRING SAFETY AND CERTIFICATION STANDARDS FOR THE SPRAY FOAM INSULATION INDUSTRY.

Hello, my name is Tyler Fiske with Anchor Insulation. We have three locations in Connecticut. They are in Niantic, East Haven and Manchester.

Thank you for giving people here the opportunity to speak on the subject of whether or not spray foam insulation contractors should be required to have some sort of certification. I would like to say that we at Anchor Insulation are in favor of an industry specific certification and believe that contractors should start to work towards having their spray foam technicians go through the SPFA (Spray Polyurethane Foam Alliance) Certification process. The SPFA is the Industry Trade Association and we feel that their programs are industry specific, appropriate, and have OSHA, NIOSH and EPA review and support to ensure validity. Were the state of Connecticut to require a trade certification, Anchor Insulation feels that the SPFA has the certification program in place and that this is what the state should require.

Thank you for your time and for allowing me to speak on this process.

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Dear Mr. Fiske:

I am writing to thank Anchor Insulation for invaluable help in Yale University's work to better understand the hazards of exposure to chemicals used in polyurethane (PU) foam insulation, including MDI, and how to ensure a safer work environment. Our group at Yale has been studying exposures and health effects related to isocyanates now for two decades in several industries, including auto body repair shops, manufacturing and construction. Although we have had excellent cooperation in the past, we have never before worked with a company such as Anchor Insulation. Anchor's staff has taken impressive leadership and initiative in working towards identification of as well as approaches to reduce potential worker exposure and health risks from chemicals associated with PU spray foam.

Anchor Insulation is clearly a leader in making sure that "green" industry jobs are also safe and healthy jobs, and that your product is safe and healthy for consumers looking for energy savings. We have learned a great deal from you and your knowledgeable staff about practical ways to reduce hazards related to spray foam insulation.

We have been most impressed with the dedication of your staff, their interest in health and safety, and their willingness to provide state-of-the-art training and protective equipment to your workers, as well as their dedication to providing builders, general contractors and home owners with an outstanding product.

It has been a pleasure working with Anchor Insulation, and we look forward to continuing to collaborate with you on our PU spray foam project.

Sincerely yours,


Carrie A. Redlich, MD, MPH

Professor of Medicine